

HIOSH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

HIOSH Training Room 427

1:05 to 2:30 p.m.

- Present:** David Aki for Arthur Akana, Hawaii Teamsters, Local 996
Ruth Amancio, General Contractors Association of Hawaii
Lani Bjork, Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel
Richard Botti, Legislative Information Service of Hawaii
Paul Chang, Hawaii Carpenters Union, Local 745
Delbert DeRego, ILWU Local 142, Maui Division
Thomas Goob, American Industrial Hygiene Association
Dr. Charles Kelley, Outrigger Hotels
Robert Nakamatsu, State Department of Human Resources Development
James Newberry, American Society of Safety Engineers
Mike Redman for Robert Dove, Hawaii Employers Mutual Insurance Company
Patrick Santos, Operating Engineers, Local 3, AFL-CIO
Thomas Vendetta, City & County of Honolulu, ISWC/Human Resources
Shelley Wheeling Park, Kaiser Permanente of Hawaii
Clayton Winger, Monarch Insurance Service
- Absent:** Steven Brooks, Building Industry Association
Gerald Estenzo, County of Kauai
Wade Hashizume, Hawaii Restaurant Association
Connie Hastert, Hawaii Employers Council
Tim Lyons, The Hawaii Business League
Gareth Sakakida, Hawaii Transportation Association
Hernando Tan, HERE Local 5, AFL-CIO
Clifford Uwayne, United Public Workers
- HIOSH:** Nelson Befitel, Director's Office, Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations
James Hardway, Director's Office, Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations
Ellen Kondo, Consultation & Training Branch, HIOSH
Mary Chun, HIOSH
Deirdre Yamasaki, HIOSH (Recorder)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairperson, Clayton Winger. A quorum was present.

1. Member introductions and roll call.
2. The October 6, 2005 minutes were approved as amended.
3. Director's Report

A copy of the Director's Report is located on the HIOSH's website at www.hawaii.gov/labor. Select the "Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division" from the "Divisions and Agencies" drop down menu, located at the top right corner on the home page. Under "Quick Links", select "Performance Overview, Goals & Upcoming Initiatives".

Thomas Goob requested if the workers' compensation claim data could be presented by a type of denominator matrix, such as total workforce, to clearly show the magnitude of improvement. Director Nelson Befitel responded that the data should be further broken down and then compared to what our workforce is by similar jurisdictions.

Clayton Winger asked about the status of the issue regarding settlement agreement monies going into a safety training fund. Director Befitel responded that the fund was abolished because there were large amounts in the fund, and the funds were needed to balance the general budget. Director Befitel stated that he would like to pursue this option, only if the committee has specific plans regarding the use of the monies.

James Newberry informed that a SHARP company contacted him regarding how to apply the 5% reduction for workers' compensation insurance. Due to the automatic billing cycle, the reduction would show as a negative amount on the balance sheet. James Newberry informed his agent of the 5% credit beforehand so that his agent could celebrate with the client. Mr. Newberry has a template available to show this.

Paul Chang asked, although workers' compensation has gone down, were cases more serious? James Hardway responded that the federal government bases severity on duration, and not the actual injury.

Clayton Winger asked if there was an increase in amputation cases. James Hardway stated that he will pull the data from prior annual data books; however, he doesn't think there has been a significant increase.

James Newberry asked how the HIOSH Advisory Committee could assist with the initiatives. Nelson Befitel indicated that he will improve on using the Advisory Committee more as a "sounding board".

Nelson Befitel stated that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations will be soliciting new and current members for the Advisory Committee. An open letter will be sent to various labor organizations, if they wish to appoint anyone. Current members will be asked to submit an application, if they wish to continue as a committee member.

4. Old Business

a. Election of a Vice Chair for 2006

Dr. Chuck Kelley was nominated and elected as the Vice-Chairperson for 2006.

James Newberry will serve as the Chairperson for 2006.

b. Report on Kona HIOSH Advisory Committee Meeting/Training Program

James Newberry informed that 50 people attended the meeting in Kona that was held on October 6, 2005. There was an outstanding group of speakers. He is waiting for the reconciliation list from the volunteers who did the registration. The registration

cost to attend the morning sessions and lunch was \$25. The ASSE and Gaspro have not received all checks and fell short by approximately \$300-\$400. George Mauiola of Airgas Gaspro wrote a check to pay the hotel. Since the HIOSH Advisory Committee does not have a treasury, he is not sure what to do about shortfall. James Newberry will show the reconciliation figures upon receipt.

The last session of the day was an open discussion session with the HIOSH Advisory Committee, the public employers, employees and HIOSH to talk about drugs in the workplace and what can be done together. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' website (www.hawaii.gov/labor) has a substance awareness video program that is available to the public at no charge. Employers need to initiate drug testings because it is not something mandated by the government. Dr. Chuck Kelley informed that the outcome of the meeting was to have the HIOSH play a role in educating and directing employers to the appropriate resources to get information and advice.

Lani Bjork distributed copies of the U.S. Attorney General's presentation at the meeting.

James Newberry will post on the ASSE's website the handouts from AIHA's teleweb presentation on drug lab contamination, and the U.S. Attorney General's Office presentation.

Clayton Winger suggested that although there is new leadership in place for the Advisory Committee, drugs in the workplace should still remain as an item on the agenda.

5. New Business

a. Meeting Schedule for 2006

February 16, 2006, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 427

May 18, 2006, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 427

August 17, 2006, Possible Neighbor Island Meeting, location to be determined

November 16, 2006, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 427

b. Sub-Committee Reports

(1) Safety Recognition and Awards – Chairperson Clayton Winger

The Sub-Committee had 36 companies that submitted applications. Two companies withdrew after receiving the evaluation forms. The Sub-Committee is looking for individuals to assist in the evaluation process, or assist the remaining 34 companies in submitting their applications. Clayton Winger asked that individuals contact him directly if they are interested in assisting, or want to find out what still needs to be done.

Applications for the ASSE's individual award were handed out. The award is for individuals who have done an excellent job and made a contribution to the community in the area of safety. The award will be given during the 2006 Governor's Pacific Rim Safety and Health Conference, which will be held on May 10-12, 2006, at the Sheraton Waikiki. Applications are available on the ASSE's website at <http://www.assehawaii.org/>. Scroll down the page to Pac Rim 2006 – Safety Awards. Click application/nomination form next to Special Achievement. The Sub-Committee would appreciate having the forms completed electronically.

On December 1, 2005, all award participants and evaluators are invited to gather at the Painter's Union at 2:00 p.m. A talk on effective safety programs will be given at this time. It is the same one from the 2004 Governor's Pacific Rim Safety and Health Conference, and will provide information about the factors that the committee is seeking for award participants. Specifically, the committee is looking for something unique that companies are doing, have found successful, and can be used by other companies to improve their safety efforts.

c. Other New Business

Clayton Winger reported that at the HIOSH's Kona meeting, Spanish speaking opportunities to excel were mentioned. He asked if HEMIC's translation list was available for everybody. Mike Redman responded that HEMIC's translation list is available at www.hemic.com. Go to the drop down menu, select the "safety" tab, scroll down to "safety program", input the password "safety", then click "submit". The HEMIC model safety plan for industries will then be displayed. The last update for the manuals will be indicated in red. Click on "Safety Phrases in Spanish" for the translation list.

James Hardway informed the committee that after inquiring with instructors, it would be too costly to offer bilingual education for only fall protection. James Newberry suggested inquiring with Hector Escarcega of Bilingual Solutions International. If James Hardway is interested in reviewing his work, Hector will have a teleweb on ASSE's website on December 14, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2006 at 1:00 pm in the HIOSH Training Room (830 Punchbowl Street, Room 427).